1	2	3
34.	Lakshadweep	7.8
35.	Puducherry	135.3
	GRAND TOTAL	27910.1

*No Employment Exchanges is functioning in this State.

Total may not tally due to rounding off.

P : Provisional

Declining job opportunities in the country

711. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proportion of unemployment has been going up whereas the proportion of job opportunities has been declining in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the effective steps being taken by Government for providing employment to the educated, uneducated, skilled and unskilled youth in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT) : (a) and (b) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organistation. Last such survey was conducted during 2004-05. As per two last quinquennial rounds of surveys on employment and unemployment, estimated number of unemployed persons on usual status basis has marginally increased from 9.04 million in 1999-2000 to 10.84 million in 2004-05 and during the same period number of employed persons has also shown increase from 397 million to 459.10 million. This was due to the fact that the pace of growth in labour force at 2.97% per annum exceeded the rate of growth of work force at 2.95% per annum.

(c) Eleventh Five Year Plan aims at creating 58 million job opportunities. Government have taken several steps for providing employment to educated, uneducated, skilled and unskilled youth in the country. The focus is on productive employment at a faster pace in order to raise the incomes of masses of the rural population to bring about a general improvement in their living conditions. The job opportunities are likely to be created on account of growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), investment in infrastructure development, growth in exports etc. Government of India has also been implementing various employment generation programmes, such as, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP); Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS).